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but touches in a popular way on the main points of interest from the beginning of the colonization of America to the Revolution. The studies are rather in civil and ecclesiastical than in social history. One lecture is given to the colonial charters in general, another to the charter of Maryland, another to the "Act Concerning Religion" of 1649. There is nowhere an attempt to depict the people of the colony as they busied themselves about their agriculture, their trading, their social and religious concerns.

Religious toleration was the distinctive feature of the Maryland colony, and Dr. Gambrall accounts for it entirely on grounds of political necessity, and as being the only means within the power of Lord Baltimore for protecting the Roman Catholics of the province from the Protestant majority. While so much pains is taken to emphasize the preponderance of Protestants, the fact should also be stated, as established by Davis, that they did not have a majority in the assembly of 1649. The establishment of the Anglican church in 1692 is commended. This may have been a wise policy, but it is a somewhat unusual use of language to say that "it was in no degree a state church" that was thus established, although "the state provided maintenance" and appointed ministers.

The arrangement of the material might have been better. Repetitions are not infrequent, as of the statement that Lord Baltimore estimated the dissenters to be three-fourths of the population, which occurs three times. The omission of slavery, save in a casual reference, is a serious one, even if accidental. It was certainly an institution more important than the ducking-stool and other subjects included in the entertaining collection of "Odds and Ends of Legislation" which forms the concluding lecture. The index, also, is carelessly compiled, the alphabetic arrangement not being carried beyond the initial letters of the titles.

The Puritans, whether in England, Virginia or Massachusetts, the author treats with scant respect, not to say with scanty information. To them he fails to accord the privilege of being judged by the standards of their own times, though he has proclaimed it as one of the main objects of his work to apply this canon to all. It should be said that he has accomplished this object much better in reference to other classes of men.

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Epochs of American History, edited by ALBERT BUSHNELL HART; *The Colonies, 1492-1750*, REUBEN G. THWAITES. Pp. 301; *Formation of the Union, 1750-1829*, ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. Pp. 278; *Division and Reunion, 1829-1889*, WOODROW WILSON. Pp. 326. New York. Longmans, Green & Co. 1891-93.

Students of American history welcome the completion of the series

of three books which are included in the Epochs of American History that Professor Hart has been editing, a volume a year, since 1891. The editor declares that the object of the series is to "show the main causes for the foundation of the colonies, for the formation of the Union, and for the triumph of that Union over disintegrating tendencies. To make clear the development of ideas and institutions from epoch to epoch,—this is the aim of the authors and the editor." In order to accomplish this, "detail . . . has been sacrificed to a more thorough treatment of the broad outlines," while "events are considered as evidences of tendencies and principles." The books are written for the perusal of the general reader and for use with classes. Each volume is divided into chapters of convenient length and contains valuable bibliographical references for the assistance of students in advanced study.

The three authors are men well-equipped for the work they have done. Mr. Thwaites, who has been for many years Secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, has made good use of his ample opportunities to study the Indians and the colonial life of the Northwest, that region where French and English colonization came together and struggled for supremacy. Professor Hart, of Harvard, writes on the period to which he has given most study; while Professor Wilson treats the period with which his study in the preparation of his works, "Congressional Government" and "The State," and his lectures on administration have made him familiar. It is fitting that the author of *The Colonies* should be a man of the Northwest, the author of *The Formation of the Union* a New Englander, and the author of *Division and Reunion* a man of Southern birth and of both Northern and Southern education.

The authors of the Epochs of American History have accomplished the object they had in view. The details, particularly in the volumes by Professors Hart and Wilson, are few and the development of ideas and institutions is clearly outlined. In dealing with causes, economic forces are rightly given large emphasis. This constitutes one of the strongest features of the series, and to have given economic conditions still more central place in the treatment as a whole would have added to the merits of the work. From the contact of a modern people with its economic environment result those institutions with which the history of a modern nation is concerned. Modern peoples differ among each other, have developed under different economic conditions. If the inherited characteristics of a people be known, and the conditions of its environment be understood, then, and only then, can its history be intelligently written. Furthermore, the latter of these two forces determining the history of a nation is the stronger; differences in

the inherited institutions of two peoples or colonies can be more easily outgrown when the two have like environment than can a similarity of institutions be maintained under different economic conditions. Thus, Professor Hart, speaking of England and the Colonies, says: "Beginning at the time of colonization with substantially the same principles of liberty and government, the two regions developed under circumstances so different that, at the end of a century and a half, they were as different from each other as from their prototype." That the distance of the colonies from the governing country accounts for the retention of the executive veto power in America, that the frontier life of the colonies caused local government to develop, that abundance of land accessible to all prevented the growth of a strong aristocracy, these are but a few illustrations of the truth of the proposition. Both Professor Hart and Professor Wilson have, at least, clearly indicated the economic forces which gave direction to the development of the banking system of the United States, the tariff, internal improvements, and slavery.

Each of the three books is strong in different ways. Mr. Thwaites is at his best in his three chapters describing the social and industrial life of the Southern, the Middle and New England colonies. Professor Hart is skillful in the grouping of his material, and especially clear in his analysis of the evolution of the federal government. Professor Wilson's portrait of Andrew Jackson is drawn with masterly hand; but the strongest feature of his book is the treatment given slavery. Professor Wilson's juristic and economic studies here stand him in good stead. He has, however, it seems to me, over-emphasized the static character of Southern industrial life previous to the war. "The existence of slavery in the South," he says, "fixed classes there in a hard crystallization and rendered it impossible that the industrial revolution [1829-41], elsewhere working changes so profound, should materially affect the structure of her own society." This is too strong a statement; the South had changed. The Virginia of 1850 differed industrially from the Virginia of 1750.

Each author has written from his own point of view and the editor has made no attempt to reconcile differences of opinion. Thus we find Professor Wilson and Professor Hart differing upon so important a question as the essential nature of the government established at the adoption of the constitution. The work, however, possesses greater value, because of the fact that three men instead of one have passed independent judgment. The work is edited in the true spirit, and each author has succeeded in giving a better outline of our national development and of the motive forces of American civilization than had before been presented to readers and students of American history.

E. R. J.